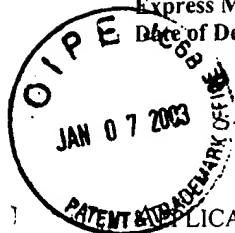


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Attorney Docket No: 15966-585A



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Prayaga *et al.*
SERIAL NO.: 09/687,276
FILING DATE: October 13, 2000
FOR: Novel Polypeptides and Polynucleotides Encoding Same

EXAMINER: Rita Mitra

ART UNIT: 1653

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE TO OCTOBER 7, 2002 OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated October 7, 2002, Applicants elect the invention of Group III (claims 15-17, 35 and 38), drawn to an antibody specific for the polypeptide of claim 1, without traverse. The Applicants further elect the polypeptide species of SEQ ID NO: 5.

A Petition for a Two-Month Extension of Time and required fee are filed herewith. With this extension, a response is due on January 7, 2003. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or to credit any overpayment, to the undersigned's account, Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Ref. No. 15966-585A.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 7, 2003

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